

Arizona Judicial Branch 2015-2019 Strategic Agenda Planning Update

Commission on Technology
September 13, 2013

- All committees actively engaged in strategic planning discussion
- Resulted in significant amount of input
- Ideas synthesized down to “reasonable” size
- AJC strategic agenda subcommittee input on initial draft in June
- STILL A WORK IN PROCESS
- First presentation to AJC in October for input
 - Final AJC presentation in December
 - Adoption by AJC in March
 - Plan effective July 1, 2014

Process Overview

- **Emerging Themes**

- Emphasis on courts as part of AZ communities
- Access to Justice emphasis
 - Broader community participation in developing solutions
 - Projects addressing needs of unrepresented litigants
 - Projects addressing language barriers to access
- Following the evidence and research to “protect our children, families, and communities”
 - Center for Evidence-Based Practices
 - More formal, more resources
 - Problem Solving Courts
- Continued emphasis on improving processes and operational efficiencies, enhancing training and workforce development, and engaging in more proactive communication with the public

Emerging Themes

Goal #1: Promoting Access to Justice

- Access to Justice
 - Blue ribbon commission
 - Increased participation & recognition for lawyers in pro bono work
 - Identify ways to improve judicial branch funding
- Services for Unrepresented Litigants
 - More web-based forms, e-filing, etc.
 - Expand self-help services
 - Collaborate with legal services agencies
 - Explore availability of other programs to assist in meeting needs

Draft Agenda Outline

Goal #1: Promoting Access to Justice

- Services for Limited English Proficient Litigants, Defendants, and Other Court Participants
 - Expand remote video interpreting project
 - Identify other opportunities to use technology
 - Increase availability & quality of interpreting services
 - Provide alternative language forms, instructions & information (at courthouse and online)

Draft Agenda Outline

Goal #1: Promoting Access to Justice

- Regulating the Practice of Law to Protect the Public
 - Attorney admissions requirements & protocols
 - State Bar governance
 - Review ABA's "Commission on Ethics 20/20" proposed rule changes
 - State Bar exam requirements
 - Training on dependency cases
 - New attorney mentoring

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Goal #2: Protecting Children, Families & Communities

- Center for Evidence-Based Practices
 - Improve/expand use of evidence-based practices in pre-trial release decisions
 - Research new programs for probation programs
- Problem-Solving Courts
 - Expand through collaboration w/ justice partners, treatment providers, and others
 - Develop evidence-based practices bench books, training, etc.

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Goal #3: Improving Court Processes to Better Serve the Public

- Judicial System Process Improvement
 - Improve case processing timeliness and efficiency
 - Case processing time standards
 - Revitalizing caseload management efforts
 - Differentiated case management
 - Case management reports
 - E-bench tools for judges and other workload tools; performance measures
 - Jury process improvement
- Access to Courts and Court Information Using Technology
 - Expanding electronic access and e-filing
 - Web-based online payment capability
 - Electronic noticing
 - Opportunities for using video/audio conference capability

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Goal #4: Enhancing Professionalism & Efficiency Within the Judicial System

- Judicial Excellence
 - Ensure new & veteran judges are well-prepared for courtroom:
 - Assess new judge training and orientation
 - Mentoring program
 - Ensure efficient and effective judicial oversight
 - Judicial education needs assessment
 - Expand training opportunities for appellate judges
 - Collaborate with State Bar
 - Develop training on best practices for domestic violence hearings & criminal case proceedings involving child victims

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Goal #4: Enhancing Professionalism & Efficiency Within the Judicial System

- Judicial Branch Leadership
 - Leadership team development programs
 - Prepare for next generation case management systems & technology
 - Succession planning
- Workforce Development
 - Web-based conference capability for training staff
 - Address compensation issues; provide avenues for promotion
 - Training standards for court security
 - Guidelines on use of social media by court employees

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Goal #4: Enhancing Professionalism & Efficiency Within the Judicial System

- Courthouse Facilities and Services
 - Improve access through strategic & stable funding
 - Needs assessment for security infrastructure
 - Minimum standards for facilities and security
- Next Generation Case Management Systems
 - Deploying AJACS in limited jurisdiction courts
 - JOLTSaz implementation
 - APETS/AJACS integration
 - Pima County Consolidated Justice Courts' migration to AGAVE
 - Appellate case management system

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Goal #4: Enhancing Professionalism & Efficiency Within the Judicial System

- Court Data Repositories & Justice System Data Exchanges
 - Complete transition from central data warehouse to Central Case Index (CCI) system
 - Collaborate w/ other justice system entities
 - Expand e-warrants project
 - Modernize statewide warrant repository system
 - Availability of mental health orders
 - Data accuracy in criminal history repository & NICS

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Goal #5: Improving Communications and Community Participation

- Volunteerism
 - Volunteer recruitment & recognition programs
 - Retired judges as “ambassadors”
- Communications w/ Public and Education Communities
 - Engage in more proactive communication
 - Promote civic education
 - Juror “downtime” as an opportunity to educate public
 - Update “Speaker’s Toolkit”
 - Increase use of social media to improve communications

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Goal #5: Improving Communications and Community Participation

- Communications w/in Branch and w/ Other Branches of Gov't
 - Reinstitute "View from the Bench"
 - Electronic newsletter
 - Improve communication among and between branches

Draft Agenda Outline

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Contact: ctrimble@courts.az.gov